

Group III: Claims 23-30, drawn to method of treating Parkinsonism and Parkinson's disease by administering L-dopa, a peripheral decarboxylase inhibitor and a compound of Group I, classified in Class 514, subclass 567+.

Notwithstanding applicants conviction that only a single invention is claimed, applicants hereby elect to prosecute the invention of Group I, that is, claims 1-18.

Applicants election of Group I is without prejudice to applicants filing divisional applications directed to the non-elected subject matter.

As further required in the Office Action, applicants hereby elect, as a single disclosed species the compound of newly added claim 31, namely, 3,4-dihydroxy-4'-methyl-5-nitrobenzophenone. Support for the foregoing compound may be found throughout the specification, for example, at Example 76-e8) on page 102, lines 20-21. Applicants also list the claims of Group I which are readable thereon as Claims 1-7, 11, 15, and newly added claims 32-39.

New claims 32 and 33 have been added to present claims of varying scope. Support for these claims is found throughout the specification, for example, at Example 76-8e), page 102, lines 20-21 and original claims 11 and 15.

New claims 34 and 35 recite pharmaceutical compositions for treating depression comprising an effective amount of a compound of formula Ia. Support may be found throughout the specification, for example, at page 2, lines 17-18.


New claims 36 and 37 recite pharmaceutical compositions for treating Parkinsons disease comprising an effective amount of a compound of formula Ia, L-dopa and a peripheral decarboxylase inhibitor. Support may be found throughout the specification, for example, at page 2, lines 26-29 and original claim 15.

New claims 38 and 39 recite pharmaceutical compositions for inhibiting catechol-O-methyl-transferase comprising an inhibiting amount of a compound of formula Ia. Support may be found throughout the specification, for example, at page 4, lines 6-7.

An Information Disclosure Statement will be filed in the near future.

The Examiner is hereby authorized to call the undersigned attorney of record "collect" on any matter connected with this application. The telephone number is Area Code (201) 235-5171. In the absence of the undersigned attorney of record, the call will be accepted by another attorney empowered in this application.

Respectfully submitted,


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